

ELLEN O. TAUSCHER
10TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY PROCUREMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY PERSONNEL

Copies sent to: MS KW ju
Date: 4/16
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0510

1239 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TELEPHONE (202) 225-1880
FAX (202) 225-5914
1801 N. CALIFORNIA BLVD.
SUITE 103
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596
TELEPHONE (925) 932-8899
FAX (925) 932-8159
100 CIVIC PLAZA
SUITE 242
DUBLIN, CA 94568
TELEPHONE (925) 829-0813
420 W. 3RD ST.
ANTIOCH, CA 94509
TELEPHONE (925) 757-7187

E-mail: Ellen.Tauscher@mail.house.gov
Web Address: www.house.gov/tauscher

Mary Nichols
Secretary
California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Nichols,

As you may know, on Wednesday, April 21, the Subcommittee on Water Resources, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, will consider the Water Resources Development Act. The specific legislation has yet to be introduced.


As a member of this subcommittee, I have been advised that a provision will be included by Representative Doolittle (R-CA) that would redistribute over 200,000 acre feet of water to junior water rights holders in the California water system, negatively affecting Delta water users, CVP users, and those who receive water through the state and federal pumps. This could have severely damaging effects on the CAL/FED process. I also understand that NEPA regulations are eviscerated by a section included in the Doolittle provision. Finally, I have serious concerns with the cost projections of these projects over the next 40 years and what this cost will mean in losses to the Federal Treasury.

CAL/FED is attempting to establish a program to resolve these regional and statewide water issues. This water grab represents an end run around these important processes. These moves, occurring outside of CAL/FED, have created the tragedy of the Delta. The Doolittle provision is being promoted just when the future of California's water development seems to have hope for success.

No hearings will have been held on this proposal prior to the Markup. As a result, I am writing to ask your agency for an evaluation of this proposal. Please respond to the following question: What is the impact on the planning process at CALFED?

I appreciate your efforts in this regard in advance, and look forward to learning your evaluation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Ellen O. Tauscher
Member of Congress

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